

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A method for producing a specific antiserum that specifically binds antigen-stimulated lymphocytes, comprising:

i) performing a first immunization by immunizing an animal with a suspension of cells of tissue of a fetus of the same genetic line as the animal that is immunized;

ii) recovering spleen cells from said immunized animal and separating lymphocytes therefrom, thus obtaining a lymphocyte suspension;

iii) performing a second immunization by immunizing an animal of the same genetic line as the animal that is first immunized with said lymphocyte suspension;

iv) recovering an antiserum from said animals immunized in the second immunization;

v) adding cells of ~~intact~~ whole organs of said animals to said antiserum, forming a suspension; and

vi) separating the supernatant from the sediments from the obtained suspension to obtain the ~~specific~~ antiserum that specifically binds antigen-stimulated lymphocytes,
~~with the proviso that the fetus used is not a human being.~~

7. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, in which the separation of the supernatant from the sediments is carried out by filtration.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, in which the second immunization is performed as repeated administrations of the cell suspension over an interval of time.

9. (currently amended) A method for diagnosis of a malignant tumor comprising:

i) performing a sample test by

a) contacting a an antiserum obtained by the method of claim 6, 7, 8, 12 or 13 ~~or 8~~ with a sample of a tissue, blood or other physiologic sample of a subject to be examined, and

b) detecting binding of antibodies of the antiserum to the sample; and

ii) determining the presence of a malignant tumor by deviation of the test result from a control test.

10. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 9, in which the method of immunodetection is an immuno-fluorescence test or an erythrocyte sedimentation test.

11. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 9, in which an erythrocyte sedimentation test is used and a diagnosis of the presence of a malignant tumor is made when α is greater than or equal to 1.5 and

$$\alpha = \frac{\left| \left(A - \frac{B_1 + B_2}{2} \right) \right| x X}{50}$$

wherein:

A is the index of the ESR of sample test,

B₁ and B₂ are indices of the ESR of tests upon control samples,

X is the maximum value of the ESR observed in the test.

12. (new) The method of claim 6, in which the animal that immunized and from which the fetal cells are obtained is a rodent.

13. (new) The method of claim 12, in which the rodent is a rat.